



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: **Second Tuesday** of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the **third Tuesday** of each month.
- On the **fourth Tuesday** of every month, in-person meeting at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit
<https://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our ham public service schedule.

RARS General Meeting

Date: April 8, 2025

Topics: Advanced Contesting

by Nate Moreschi, N4YDU

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church

Time: In-Person and Zoom Meeting at 7:30 PM, [More info at RARS.org](https://www.rars.org)

RARS In Person Gathering

Date: April 22, 2025

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church

Time: 7:00 PM

In-person Gathering at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.

RARS Officers

PRESIDENT

Fin Gold
NC4FG
nc4fgfin@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Till
K4RGN
k4rgn@outlook.com

SECRETARY

Julie Royster
KT4JR
919-782-1624
KT4JR@arrl.net

TREASURER

Greg Seamster
KE4PAX
919.859.0029
KE4PAX@arrl.net



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Regular dues for licensed amateurs are \$18 per year. (From July 1 through June 30.) Additional licensed immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed full-time students and licensed seniors 60 and over are \$12 per year. Unlicensed individuals may become associate members for \$9 per year. Applications for membership are available from the treasurer or on the RARS web site.

<https://www.rars.org>

Exciter

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the Saturday that is ten days before the general meeting. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

Exciter President's Message for April 2025

Come see us!

After hard work and detailed planning by many people, RARSfest is about to happen! Come out on Saturday, April 5th to see all there is to see! See below for details.

Come by the RARS booth located at the Prize and Information Center to do the following:

- Say hello to me and other RARS members

- Learn what the club is planning

- Get a FREE ham sticker!

- Give your feedback on how to make the club better

- See some interesting vintage and new gadgets

- Get your FREE membership after passing your license exam

- Join or renew your membership

Repeater Committee Update

Since our Repeater Chairman Chuck DeCourt W3WZN, moved to New Bern, please welcome our new Chairman Jon Suen KG6K. Jon has the technical background and experience to help maintain and improve our repeaters. Any questions about repeaters should be directed to him at kg6k@jsuen.com.

Online Learning Opportunity

Mentioned on a local groups.io forum, this is a legitimate resource to learn more about radio. Rol Anders, K3RA is a respected teacher.

FREE ON-LINE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATING CLASS

A free, weekly, 3-hour Amateur Radio Operating Class on Zoom will begin on Thursday April 3 and run through June 19 at 6:30 PM Eastern time. The presenters will be various experienced folks in the various subjects.

A detailed syllabus will be published before the classes begin. Attend them all, or any that you like, but you must register for the classes. To receive registration information, contact Rol Anders, K3RA, at roland.anders@comcast.net.

Exciter President's Message, continued

Subjects will include:

- All About Operating--A general Introduction
- Amateur Radio Organizations—Local to International
- Ham Radio Awards
- DXing-History and Tips from the Experts
- QSLing-How to get that needed card for DXCC or WAS
- VHF/UHF Weak Signal Work and “Roving”
- Image Operating—Slow Scan and Fast Scan TV
- Remote Station control over internet
- Learning CW in the no-code era
- Digital Modes—From RTTY to FT8 and beyond
- Contesting—How to get started, tips for the beginner and intermediated contester
- Logging Software—What’s available, how to use
- Propagation—A general intro to HF Propagation
- Amateur Satellites—How to get started
- Portable (backpacking) operation—Tips from an expert
- Setting Up a Modern (or not so modern) HF Station
- Lightning Protection and Grounding
- Traffic Handling
- Public Service, Emergency Communications

Radio on!

73,

Fin Gold, NC4FG

President

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

2025 RARSfest

RARSfest, The Raleigh Hamfest, is a few days away! The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society is proud to sponsor the largest hamfest east of the Mississippi.

We have **new** dealers joining us: Diamond Antenna, and M&L Radio Technology. This year, Chatt Radio, G&G Electronics, The Ham Badgers, Ham Radio Outlet, Phase Dock Inc., Personal Stitches, Tarheel Designs, and The Wireman are returning!

If you're all about POTA and SOTA operations, check out returning Summit Outdoors Gear, **new** vendor Deal City, and **new** dealers Reliance Antenna and Spooltenna, by RARS' own KO4HUI!

We have exciting Emergency Comms vehicles returning!

You can't learn everything about ham radio from YouTube. A great slate of presenters are bringing their expertise and enthusiasm to our Forums. Check out the line-up and schedule [here](#).

You can *NEVER* have too many radios, despite what your significant other tell you... We have amazing Door Prizes that would love to make *your* house their home.

RARSfest 2025 Door Prizes

Grand Prize Yaesu FTDX10 HF Radio



- The drawing for the Grand Prize will take place at 2:00 PM from among all eligible admission tickets **purchased** for RARSfest 2025, including "Early Birds"
- The winner of the Grand Prize will **not** be eligible for any Sponsored Prize drawings that take place after the Grand Prize drawing
- Volunteers will have to have **purchased** an admission ticket to be eligible for the Grand Prize
- You need not be present to win*

First Prize Yaesu FTM-500DR FM/C4FM Dual Band Mobile



- The drawing for the First Prize will take place at 1:00 PM from among all eligible admission tickets **purchased** for RARSfest 2025, including "Early Birds"
- The winner of the First Prize will **not** be eligible for the Grand Prize drawing or for any Sponsored Prize drawings that take place after the First Prize drawing
- Volunteers will have to have **purchased** an admission ticket to be eligible for the First Prize
- You need not be present to win*

"Early Bird" Prize ICOM IC-2730 Dual Band Mobile



- The drawing for the "Early Bird" Prize will take place at 10:00 AM from among all eligible admission tickets **purchased** for RARSfest 2025 **during the "Early Bird" period** from January 30 through March 29, 2025
- Volunteers will have to have **purchased a ticket during the "Early Bird" period** to be eligible
- All tickets purchased during the "Early Bird" period, including the winning ticket, will be placed in the main barrel for subsequent drawings
- You need not be present to win*

2025 RARSfest, continued

For \$10 in advance (\$12 at the door), you will get a solid day of all things Amateur Radio right here in Raleigh. We also still have Flea Market tables available, and it's all indoors, and the parking is *FREE*.

RARSfest is completely volunteer-driven! Without our volunteers, there would be **no RARSfest**. You don't need to be a member of RARS or even be a ham to help. Shifts are 2 hours, which allows for plenty of time to participate in any of the activities listed above. Check here to see the areas available, and the sign-up can be found here.

[RARSfest - The NC Capital Area Hamfest](#)

In addition to helping the club, there are some perks for volunteers.

If you sign up IN ADVANCE for even one shift, you will receive one "Complimentary Admission" (not good for prize drawings!); you still need to purchase a ticket for those!

You receive a 2025 commemorative volunteer Tee shirt

You are entered into the "Volunteers Only" drawing for a Yaesu FT-70D HT, a \$169 value.

You are eligible to utilize the RARS Consignment Table, where RARS will sell your gear for you so you don't have to purchase or man a Flea Market table!

RARSfest FCC testing

To register for HAM license testing at RARSfest please go to this website and register.

<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/6764303f8ae69a2a77ba033c/1>

73

Richard Hall

March 11, 2025 RARS meeting

President Fin Gold NC4FG called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. He reminded Zoom participants of a few notes about using Zoom. See the minutes for all the details during the meeting on [page 23](#).

President Gold asked if any new members, visitors, or newly upgraded licensees were present. Visitors present were: Elliot Johnson KR4BUA, David Crawford KF4VXJ, Nick Baker KR4BTY, and Van Crandall (unlicensed). Newly licensed members present were: Debbie Garland KR4BTK, and Randy Chellis KR4BUR. No pictures were taken.



Before the meeting workshop. Sorry don't have the names of the people in the picture.

Annual Awards Presentation by Chuck Till K4RGN

Chuck presented certificates of appreciation to members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in assisting the club and the community. See the [minutes](#) for the full list of names.



Denny Oestreich KO4IBL for leadership in resuming license classes
Nancy Torborg KB2TNR for leadership in enhancing RARSfest
Doug Wall N3LTV for service to North Carolina during Hurricane Helene and its aftermath
Tadd Torborg KA2DEW for launching the Gatherings and new ham meetings

March 4, 2025 RARS meeting, continued



David Burt W4OFO for leadership in the
2024 Field Day



As a special tribute, Chuck also presented a plaque conveying life membership in RARS to Tom Lewis, N4TL, for his many years of generous service to RARS in many different roles, including VP & editor of the Exciter.

Door Prize Winners



Tom Schwartz, NC4TS; Richard Kroeger, N1FUA; and Tom Lewis, N4TL

March 4, 2025 RARS meeting, continued

RARSfest 2025 presented by Nancy Torborg KB2TNR.



Fin Gold, NC4FG running the meeting



Nancy Torborg, KB2TNR, talking about *RARSfest*



The *RARSfest* team



RARSfest 2025

March 4, 2025 RARS meeting, continued

Full Name	Call Sign	RARS Member	Full Name	Call Sign	RARS Member
Ken Latchum	AD4GX	Yes	Randy Chellis	KR4BUR	Yes
Tony O'Connor	K1OC	Yes	Richard Labarbera	KR4RL	Yes
Jeremy Lindsley	K2HJX	Yes	Julie Royster	KT4JR	Yes
John Hollowell	K4JAH	Yes	Michael Johnson	KZ4LY	Yes
Chuck Till	K4RGN	Yes	Richard Kroeger	N1FUA	Yes
Barry Wheeler	K9IUT	Yes	Doug Wall	N3LTV	Yes
Tadd Torborg	KA2DEW	Yes	Joe Haggerty	N4BJH	Yes
Nancy Torborg	KB2TNR	Yes	Jim Barronn4Cvt	N4CVT	Yes
Jonathan Osbrink	KB8QNE	Yes	Tom Lewis	N4TL	Yes
David Cannon	KE7UJX	Yes	Fin Gold	NC4FG	Yes
David Crawford	KF4VXJ	No	Tom Schwartz	NC4TS	Yes
Jon Suen	KG6K	Yes	Van Crandall	NOCALL	No
Bruce Sherman	KI4PAC	Yes	Stephen Haffly	NY4NC	Yes
Brad Bazemore	KK4PWJ	Yes	Robert Starkenburg	W4TTX	Yes
Devin Hedge	KN4FVH	Yes	Bill Weinel	W4WHW	Yes
Denny Oestreich	KO4IBL	Yes	Dale Jones	WA4JCK	Yes
Debbie Garland	KR4BTK	Yes	Charles Swindell	WB4DCM	Yes
Josh Kurland	KR4BTW	Yes	Wilbur Goss	WD4RDT	Yes
Nick Baker	KR4BTY	No	Dennis Mason	WZ0Q	Yes
Elliot Johnson	KR4BUA	No			

39 People attended in person



Screen capture showing 21 on Zoom, 60 total

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, March 18

Ridge Road Baptist Church, at [2011 Ridge Road, Raleigh](#)

The meeting starts at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, but we start setting up at 6:00 pm, and you are welcome to bring your own ham radio equipment and projects to demonstrate, show off, or just work on with other like-minded hams -- we have plenty of tables. You might also find sources of coax, connectors, zip cord, Powerpoles®, and whatnot.

Full Name	Call Sign	RARS Member	Full Name	Call Sign	RARS Member
Tony O'Connor	K1OC	Yes	Elliot Johnson	KR4BUA	No
Javier Henderson	K4JH	No	Michael Johnson	KZ4LY	Yes
Tadd Torborg	KA2DEW	Yes	Richard Kroeger	N1FUA	Yes
Nancy Torborg	KB2TNR	Yes	Joe Haggerty	N4BJH	Yes
Jonathan Osbrink	KB8QNE	Yes	Jim Barron	N4CVT	Yes
Reward Dellafave	KC4AQC	Yes	Tom Lewis	N4TL	Yes
Zachary Wilson	KD2JEJ	Yes	Steve Zabarnick	N9SZ	Yes
Billy Janke	KE4VNC	Yes	Dennis Keith	NC4DK	Yes
Jon Suen	KG6K	Yes	Fin Gold	NC4FG	Yes
Brad Bazemore	KK4PWJ	Yes	John Bowser	NOCALL	No
Devin Hedge	KN4FVH	Yes	Stephen Haffly	NY4NC	Yes
Rob Bowser	KO4HUI	Yes	Robert Starkenburg	W4TTX	Yes
Thomas Karches	KQ4FKQ	Yes	Bruce Woodry	W8WZ	Yes
Jay Gilleece	KQ4PSK	Yes	Charles Swindle	WB4DCM	Yes
Mark Reeves	KQ4ZAC	Yes	Dan Stancil	WY3O	Yes
Lawrence Riley	KR4BGL	Yes	Dennis Mason	WZ0Q	Yes

32 People, RARS Gathering Attendance March 2025

RARS Member Birthdays

Kenneth	KQ4JID	04/01
Bill	KO4IBN	04/01
Devin	KN4FVH	04/01
Roger	KB4FEU	04/02
Mark	KQ4ZAC	04/02
Bob	W4TTX	04/03
Patrick	KN4YEH	04/04
Dean	KM4WRO	04/06
Garry	KM4MMC	04/07
Dalton	W1DGS	04/07
Ginger	KD4OKP	04/08
Julia	KT4JR	04/09
Dennis	NC4DK	04/10
Scott	KG4ZYA	04/11
David	K9RI	04/11
Tim	KO4FJW	04/12
Dave	K4KDP	04/13
Deb	KR4BTK	04/14
Tom	NC4TS	04/15
Thomas	N4IZE	04/15
Ryan	N7RYN	04/17
Charles	KM4MBS	04/17
Bill	KZ4LW	04/18
Michael	KD4FRD	04/18
Bill	N0FSD	04/19
Kirk	KI4RK	04/19
Rusty	KQ4CAN	04/19
Larry	W4LEC	04/19
John	W4WWD	04/20
Heyward	WA4HTR	04/21
Fin	NC4FG	04/22
Troy	KN4WSO	04/22

RARS Member Birthdays

Pete	KI4LWQ	04/23
Joanne	AA3N	04/23
Dave	KG4OPZ	04/24
Eric	WO2S	04/25
Bob	KQ4QXD	04/25
Patrick	W4NMS	04/25
Dario	KF5CYN	04/25
Joe	KT4JOE	04/27
Kirk	KM4RHF	04/27
Charlie	WA4OSS	04/27
Stan	W2CK	04/29
John	NC4JP	04/29
John	W3KHG	04/30
Tara	W4TSW	04/30

RARS New Members

Richard LaBarbera	KR4RL
Lawrence Riley	KR4BGL

March 2025

RARS Net Report

31 2m nets: 407 checkins, 800 minutes

3 6m nets: 56 checkins, 49 minutes

Julie Royster, KT4JR, RARS net manager

HAM Radio Brunch

These pictures were taken on Thursday March 6, 2025 at the New York Diner, 909 McKnight Drive Knightdale. The food is usually coming out by 11AM.

12 people attended.



Names clockwise around the table

Julie Royster, KT4JR; Howard Goodman, N4KYW; Ken Latchum, AD4GX; Chuck Till, K4RGN; Charles Swindell, WB4DCM; Dennis Mason, WZ0Q; Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ; Chuck Littlewood, K4HF; Charlie Strickland, WA4OSS;



Table two. Names clockwise around the table

Walt Chambers, K4ZVK; Dave Guthrie, WA4DAG; Tom Lewis, N4TL

RARS MONTHLY SUPPER , IHOP RESTAURANT MARCH 18, 2025



Chuck Till, K4RGN; Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL; Chuck Littlewood, K4HF; Ken Latchum, AD4GX;
Dennis Mason, WZ0Q; Walt Chambers, K4ZVK; Ralph Selmont, KQ4RZI; Bob Chew, K4YXM;
Robert Chew; Bob Starkenburg, W4TTX;



Ralph Selmont, KQ4RZI; Bob Chew, K4YXM; Robert Chew; Bob Starkenburg, W4TTX; Tom Lewis, N4TL;
Mark Freeze, WD4KSE; John Honeycutt, N8ZU; Chuck Till, K4RGN; Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL;
Chuck Littlewood, K4HF; Ken Latchum, AD4GX; Dennis Mason, WZ0Q;

RARS Classifieds

Copied from <https://www.rars.org/classifieds.php>

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.
Check the RARS Classified List on the RARS website regularly for new items.

Items for sale

Posted April 1st, 2025

contact Bruce N1LN bemeier at bellsouth.net

1. Logikey 5 keyer: Condition 9 – 10, PDF manual available \$40.00
2. Logikey 3 keyer: Condition 9 – 10, PDF manual available \$30.00
3. MFJ Model 401 Econo Keyer: Condition 9 – 10, PDF manual available \$25.00
4. ALTAI KDM-6 Grid Dip meter: original manual, all coils, in original mfg. box. \$40.00
6. Bird watt meter Model 43: 1000w and 250w plug ins for 2 – 20 mhz. Condition 10, like new. SO-239 connectors. \$250.00
7. Yaesu Speaker model SP-5 with built-in audio filter. Condition 8 - 9 URL: <https://www.universal-radio.com/catalog/hamhf/sp50275.html> \$75.00
8. Alfa 5325 digital VOM in original case with cables. In like new condition. \$40.00
9. MFJ ceramic dog bone insulators. Package of 5, New – still in package \$5.00
10. Simpson Model 270 Analog VOM with cables. Works great! Condition 8 – 10. \$250.00
11. DX Engineering EZ build dipole kit (DXE-UWA-KIT) Many extra end insulators, two center insulators, missing bolts, nuts. One kit new cost from DXE \$30.49. All pictured \$30.00
12. Insulated antenna wire. Not sure of length but well over 100' DX Engineering URL: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/dxe-antw-150> All pictured wire \$30.00
13. Two ceramic feed-through insulators. These are getting harder to find. Both for \$25.00

contact Bruce N1LN bemeier at bellsouth.net

RARS Classifieds continued

Lots of Good equipment for SALE - Downsizing.

Posted March 30th, 2025 by: K4RLC

Contact: K4RLC

bconder@yahoo.com

RARSfest for sale – Downsizing & cleaning out. Buy now, pick up at RARSfest...no shipping. All working condition. comes from good home, non-smoker.

2. Heil Gold Line GM-4 microphone (Wide & Narrow switch) with HB-1 microphone boom – steel, black. Two cables included: One for straight connection. Other has PTT Foot switch jack. Audio-Technica AT-8410a Shock Mount. Set for \$200
4. Weather Radio – RadioShack. Original manual. \$25.00
5. Walkie-Talkies – pair of Uniden FRS walkie talkies with charger. \$25.00
6. Yaesu 2 Meter Mobile rig FT- 1500M – original manual. \$ 85 (VHF only)
7. ICOM 2 Meter Mobile rig IC-2100 – \$ 75 (VHF only)
8. Anytone AT-D878UV Digital DMR Dual Band HT. Original Box, manual and accessories. \$110
9. Ladder Loc WA1FFL – T adaptor for building Dipoles with Ladder/Twin lead. New. \$25.00
11. Radioddity DB25 Dual Band VHF/UHF Transceiver. With Mobile antenna. \$50.00
12. ATR- Legal Limit Tuner from Ameritron. Like New. Original Box. \$600.00
13. American Morse Ultra Porta Paddle with leg strap \$110 (Key retails for \$169.95)
14. Chelagance M-104 HF 4 Band Portable Antenna. New, never used. \$75.00
15. Bencher ST-1 Single lever paddle. Black Base. \$100-
16. PELICAN Protector Case 1520 w/Foam Never used new \$125.00

Email questions. Not shipping, pick-up from my table at RARSfest. Thanks. Bob K4RLC

RARS Classifieds continued

Very Large Go Box (usually for HF and VHF/UHF)

Posted March 24th, 2025 by: [KC1TWR](#)

Contact: TimKC1TWR@gmail.com

Crossrock Stackable 6U Rack Case with components and wiring
Selling for \$400, includes the following:

Crossrock Stackable 6U Rack Case, Standard 19.25" Depth, Polyethylene Hard-shell Construction with Heavy Duty Hardware-Black(CRA9606U)

StarTech.com 2U Server Rack Shelf - Universal Rack Mount Cantilever Shelf for 19" Network Equipment Rack & Cabinet - Heavy Duty Steel – Weight Capacity 44lb/20kg - 16" Deep Tray, Black (CABSHELF)

Chunzehui F-1005 9 Port 40A Connector Power Splitter Distributor Source Strip, 1 Input and 8 Output

Chunzehui F-1006 Low Loss Power Gate PWRpath Module, PowerPath PWRgate.

NavePoint 4U Blank Rack Mount Panel Spacer with Venting for 19-Inch Server Network Rack Enclosure Or Cabinet Black

Gator Rackworks Rack Mount Steel Flat Panel Accessory; 2U Size (GRW-PNLSTFT2)

LED light strip

Misc. power pole connectors and RF connectors

2 Dual USB panel mount

Volt/Current Panel Mount

4 hole panel bracket

Pictures available upon request.

Tom KC1TWR, Carrboro NC

RARS Classifieds continued

Alpha 76 Amp for sale

Posted March 21st, 2025

Contact Nathan Moreschi, N4YDU n4ydunate at gmail.com

Alpha 76 (3 8874 tubes) in very good shape. Amp has had a few improvements made- including high voltage caps replaced and the lower drive mod. Asking \$825.

FS: Icom PW-1 Amplifier

Posted March 19th, 2025 by: [W4BOH](#)

Contact: infomet@embarqmail.com

Estate unit, known to have been in service but not tested by me.

Includes some cables, for a 7610 I think.

Heavy, includes power supply.

\$2000.

WM 1 SWR and Watt Meter Wanted!

Posted March 11th, 2025 by: [KQ4ICK](#)

Contact: garrydouglassmurray@gmail.com

I am looking for a WM 1 SWR and Power Meter in great condition. Garry 919-859-2980

Thank you.

Minutes, Board of Directors Meeting

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

March 4, 2025 7PM on Zoom

1) Call to Order and Quorum call – Fin Gold NC4FG

President Gold called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. There were no visitors. Board members attending were: Fin Gold NC4FG, Chuck Till K4RGN, Julie Royster KT4JR, Richard Hall KR4LH, Tom Lewis N4TL, Tony O'Connor K1OC, Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ, Chuck Littlewood K4HF, Denny Oestreich KO4IBL, Greg Seamster KE4PAX, Jeremy Lindsley K2HJX, Ken Latchum AD4GX, Tadd Torborg KA2DEW, and Nancy Torborg KB2TNR. Secretary Julie Royster confirmed that a quorum had been achieved with 14 board members present.

2)

President Gold asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 2025 Board Meeting. Chuck Till so moved, and the motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

3) Officers' Reports

a) Vice-President's Report – Chuck Till K4RGN

We will present the annual awards at the March meeting. In addition to the members we identified at the February board meeting, we will also make an award to recognize Curt Phillips.

The March meeting program covering RARSfest arrangements will be presented by Nancy Torborg.

The April program will be presented by Nathan Moreschi N4YDU on contesting.

The May program will be presented by an NC State professor concerning lithium batteries.

b) Treasurer's Report – Greg Seamster KE4PAX

Membership is up to 530 members, with 516 voting members. 58 members from last year have not renewed.

c) Secretary's Report – Julie Royster KT4JR

The minutes are up to date.

4) Committee Reports:

a) Public Service Director Jeremy Lindsley, K2HJX

The first event of the year, Odyssey of the Mind, had 15 volunteers. There were several new volunteers. The next event is a bike event. Unfortunately there is a conflict between the MS Walk and RARSfest, and Jeremy is looking for a volunteer to be in charge of the ham team at the MS Walk..

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

- b) Education Director Denny Oestreich, KO4IBL
14 students took the entire 3 weeks of class. So far 4 students have reported that they have obtained their licenses. Denny plans the next class in the fall.
- c) Field Day Chairs Marty Young, W4MY
Marty told Fin he will start working on FD once the NC QSO party is over.
- d) FM Repeater Chair Chuck DeCourt, W3WZN
Chuck Till contacted SERA and we will get a new repeater frequency
- e) Club License Trustees Tom Lewis, N4TL
Trustee licenses are up to date.
- f) Exciter Editor Tom Lewis, N4TL
The next issue is almost done.
- g) RARSfest Chair Nancy Torborg, KB2TNR
330 tickets have been sold online so far, plus direct sales in addition.
130 tables have been sold. Nancy is going to the SWARC meeting tomorrow to give their program. We are seeking more volunteers. We are getting prizes from various companies and from ARRL. We may have an emergency services vehicle coming from the US Veterans Corps. We will not have any robots on display, but the emergency services vehicles can fill the same physical space where robots would have been.
- h) Food Service Chair Richard Kroeger, N1FUA
Fin confirmed that food has been successful at the meetings and gatherings.
- i) Net Manager Julie Royster, KT4JR
Nets are going as usual. Fin Gold had suggested that we have occasional new ham nets. Alan Pitegoff said he and Virginia Enzor had discussed this concept, which has been tried in the past with poor participation. Alan has a video about repeater etiquette which could be linked on the RARS website. There was a discussion about possibly covering repeaters and nets during the Gathering meetings. Julie suggested making a brief video for our website about local nets and

1. **Identify the main components of the system.**

their protocols. There was a lengthy discussion about what might be the best way to inform new hams about all the activities available in the Ham hobby. Ideas floated included Elmers, the new ham meeting, and more. Fin asked Tadd Torborg to compile a list of potential Elmers and their qualifications. Tony suggested asking at a club meeting who would be interested in being an Elmer, and also how many new hams desire Elmers. Julie said we need to inform license candidates at our test sessions about the local repeaters and when their nets are held. Fin says our brochure has this information. Richard needs copies of the brochure to distribute at test sessions. This brochure is on the members' page on the website. Julie also asked whether we could record and put online a 5-minute video on how to participate in nets. Tadd and Julie and Tony can work on this.

- j) ARRL Liaison Chuck Littlewood, K4HF
nothing to report
- k) NC QSO Party Chair Marty Young, W4MY
Fin says the RARS club station went great.
- l) RARS VE Coordinators Richard Hall, KR4LH
The last testing session was successful. Richard thinks interest in ham radio is increasing and the availability of multiple test sessions per month is helpful in attracting newbies to the hobby.
- m) RARS Webmaster Tony O'Connor, K1OC
The website is working fine.
- n) At Large Director Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ
It is a problem that some people do not turn off their APRS when they quit operating. The free AB4OZ hamfest will be held in the Ridge Road Baptist Church parking lot in May and June.
- o) At Large Director Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW
Nothing to report. We are pondering topics for the next new ham meeting.
- p) At Large Director Ken Latchum, AD4GX
Nothing to add. The last Gathering was great!

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

5) Other reports or questions

Greg Seamster uploaded his Treasurer report to our Google drive. He has received payment for 130 tables at RARS*fest* so far.

Awards question: Charley Durst NC4CD has helped RARS with repeater work, and Greg suggested him for an award.

Greg asked how frequently youth come to license test sessions. There were several comments about activities for kids. Stickers for kids were suggested.

Alan Pitegoff reminded us that daylight savings time starts this weekend.

The quarterly 10 m net will be held in April.

6) Adjournment

President Gold asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made and seconded, and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Royster, RARS Secretary

RARS General Membership Meeting minutes

March 11, 2025, 7:30 PM

In person and on Zoom

1. President Fin Gold NC4FG called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. He reminded Zoom participants of a few tips about using Zoom.
2. President Gold asked if any new members, visitors, or newly upgraded licensees were present. Visitors present were: Elliot Johnson KR4BUA, David Crawford KF4VXJ, Nick Baker KR4BTY, and Van Crandall (unlicensed). Newly licensed members present were: Debbie Garland KR4BTK, and Randy Chellis KR4BUR.
3. President Gold asked Secretary Julie Royster for a quorum call. Counting in-person plus zoom participants, a quorum was reached. President Gold then requested a motion to approve the February club meeting minutes. The motion was made, seconded, and approved.
4. Vice President's Report or announcements – Chuck Till, K4RGN Chuck announced that the April meeting program will be presented by Nate Moreschi N4YDU concerning advanced contesting. The May meeting program will be about the NASA deep space network. The June meeting will be about Field Day. The July meeting will feature a professor from NC State talking about the future of lithium batteries.
5. Secretary's Report or announcements – Julie Royster, KT4JR The minutes are up to date.
6. Treasurer's Report or announcements – Greg Seamster, KE4PAX RARS now has 517 voting members.
7. Specific Announcements or Reports from Directors
 - Annual Awards Presentation by Chuck Till K4RGN
 - Chuck presented certificates of appreciation to members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in assisting the club and the community.
 - In alphabetical order the 2025 recipients are:
 - David Burt W4OFO for leadership in the 2024 Field Day
 - Virginia Enzor NC4VA for decades of leadership in emergency communications, plus serving the club as secretary and as net manager.
 - Denny Oestreich KO4IBL for leadership in resuming license classes
 - Curt Phillips W4CP for leadership in Field Day, license classes, and special interest groups
 - Nancy Torborg KB2TNR for leadership in enhancing RARS*fest*
 - Tadd Torborg KA2DEW for launching the Gatherings and new ham meetings
 - Doug Wall N3LTV for service to North Carolina during Hurricane Helene and its aftermath
 - Brantley West K4CBW for leadership in organizing portable operating events including Parks on the Air activations.

RARS General Membership Meeting minutes continued

As a special tribute, Chuck also presented a plaque conveying life membership in RARS to Tom Lewis N4TL for his many years of generous service to RARS in many different roles, including as editor of the Exciter.

8. Announcements by Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ The quarterly 10m net will be held on April 12. The free AB4OZ hamfest will be held on May 17 in the parking lot of Ridge Road Baptist Church. At RARSfest Alan will man the test table where the operational status of equipment can be checked.
9. President Gold announced that the next Board Meeting will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 on Zoom. The RARS dinner will be held on March 18, and the next Gathering will be held on March 25.
10. Jeremy Lindsley K2HJX called for interested hams to volunteer at public service events. The schedule of events where help is needed can be seen on the RARS.org website and on the HPSNC.org website. To familiarize those who have not participated previously, a mock public service event will be held from 1-3 pm on March 23 at Umstead Park (Crabtree shelter #2, reached using the Glenwood Avenue entrance).
11. Door Prize Drawing and picture of winners for the Exciter Chuck Till conducted the drawing, and the winners were: Tom Schwartz NC4TS, Richard Kroeger N1FUA, and Tom Lewis N4TL.
12. VP Chuck Till K4RGN introduced the program: *RARSfest 2025* presented by Nancy Torborg KB2TNR. Following this excellent presentation, Chuck thanked Nancy.
13. President Gold asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made and seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Royster KT4JR, RARS Secretary

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